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Comment. The figure, US\$ 175,000,000, is an obvious exaggeration. The Siamese persistently confuse large figures, and it seems much more likely that the sum, if authentic, is US\$ 175,000. In addition, the reference to the United States Army general was not made in the sense that the general was implicated in an illegal arrangement. He probably is someone who has control of the surplus arms in question, and Boon Nam and associates contemplate getting them in a legal but perhaps indirect manner (as for example, shipment to China), and then, through devious means, delivering them to the Viet Minh or other prospective purchasers.)

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1979 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2003

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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